

Whilton Newsletter

AUGUST 1996



Whilton Locks - The Marina

EDS' NOTES

Here we are, well and truly into the holiday season and all hoping for sunshine wherever we are staying.

Years ago, before holidays were the "norm", it was mainly the farmers who kept a "weather eye" open for their work.

Without today's mechanical aids to speed up harvesting, etc. bad weather could really spell disaster.

Here are some old sayings relating to the weather :

Dry August and warm

Does harvest no harm.

August was also known as "weed month" but that seems to apply to several months now, doesn't it?

August 24th is St Bartholomew's Day -

If St. Bartholomew's Day be fair and clear

Then a properous autumn comes that year.

and

St. Bartholomew's Day brings a cold dew.

September 21st is St. Matthew's Day and is said to bring cold, rain and dew.

September 29th is Michaelmas Day.

If the north wind blows on Michaelmas Day

The month of October is sunny and gay.

Now we turn on the T.V. and rely on the weatherman for our forecasts!

To change the subject. The ed's would be delighted to have more participation by villagers in providing items for the *Newsletter*

Ladies - have you any household or cookery hints, or recipes you can recommend?

Gentlemen - have you any gardening tips? or you may even have some household hints (such as how to be somewhere else when the washing-up needs doing!)

We would welcome items from the young people. Could you write a poem or a story? Perhaps you could write about something you have particularly enjoyed during your holiday.

The idea of publishing birthdays has also been mentioned. This would depend upon parents providing the information.

We would also welcome new drawings that might be used for our front page.

If you have any ideas of your own or suggestions for improvements in our *Newsletter* do please tell us.

A very happy holiday to everyone.

Ed's.

PARADISE CAKE

6oz shortcrust pastry	3oz marg
4oz castor sugar	1 egg
4oz sultanas or mixed dried fruit	Jam
2 tablesp chopped glacé cherries	
2 tablesp chopped walnuts (optional)	
2 tablesp ground rice	
1 tablesp ground almonds	
Few drops almond essence (optional)	

Line swiss roll tin with pastry

Spread jam on pastry

Cream marg and sugar, beat in egg. Add ground rice & ground almonds, then mix in dried fruit, cherries, walnuts & essence.

Spread mixture onto pastry and bake in a moderate oven (160°) 30 - 35 mins. until golden brown.

Mary Emery

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RECTORY JOTTINGS.....

CHANGE BUT NOT DECAY

I recently received a newsletter from my old theological college at Cuddesdon, which not only enabled me to catch up on what is happening there, but showed how much things have changed in 26 years. For instance, there are now women in training for the priesthood. In my day ladies were only allowed inside the place for Saturday night meals and Sunday morning coffee, and, if they were quick and careful, wives might just squeeze in a bath while the men were in the parish church singing Evensong - and then only on a Thursday night! Indeed, my wife, Janet, still insists that she saw one student, who for some reason had missed the service, brandishing a shot gun when he realised that females had invaded his corridor to take a bath! I wonder which parish he went to?

Again, when I was there, great play was made about being 'withdrawn' from the busy social and academic life of Oxford, to concentrate in the quietness of the countryside - Cuddesdon was miles from anywhere - on preparing for the sacred ministry, much as Jesus did when he withdrew from the crowds before making his big decisions. Today everyone rushes off in their cars to enjoy Oxford as much as possible.

There was in the 60's a general air of unreality and social privilege at theological college. Most of my contemporaries (though not me) were middle class, educated at leading public schools, and elitist. All were graduates. We were told to 'mix' with the villagers, as if it were not an entirely natural thing to do, but not to fall in love with local girls. The few husbands and wives in the student body were discouraged from starting families, and when one couple did (Americans), the father had to sit beside the Principal at breakfast to explain and apologise! It was a terrible warning to the rest of us. Today children run round the college as part of the community, and most students are married, older than we were, more worldly-wise and far more socially mixed.

I regret little of this change. Indeed, the 'revolution' had already started in my time, with the first reforms of the Church of England, the closure or amalgamation of small isolated colleges, curriculum development, and a growing sense that theological education involved lay people too, and not just the clergy. The Church, and the parochial system especially, has changed enormously since I first joined my seminary at Cuddesdon.

What I am trying to say is this. The Church has always been about a people on the move. It is very tempting for clergy and congregations to want to remain static, to keep things as they always have been, to snuggle down in the warm and comforting bed of familiarity. But this will be to deny our calling to be missionaries and ambassadors for the Lord and his Kingdom. Clergy and laity need constantly to adapt to the changing circumstances around them - or start to die as an effective force in society. Not change for the sake of it, or change that denies the essentials of Christianity, but a willingness to look and listen in a world where God is at work, and calling us to follow. Change does not necessarily mean decay. Quite the opposite.

This is my last contribution to our NEWSLETTER - I move out of the Rectory at Brington on 2nd/3rd September for Bournemouth, though I will be back for my final service on Sunday, 8th September. I am conscious, of course, that whenever a parish priest moves on, there is bound to be a feeling of uncertainty, and a fear of what we will get next! At the time of writing this I have no idea what the new Bishop of Peterborough will decide is in our best interests, but I have a gut hunch the interregnum will not be a long one, and we shall have a new parson soon. Our parishes belong now to a group of six, and we need a leader at the helm if things are to grow, develop, and stay in harmony. Whatever happens, do not lose heart. There could well be something much better just around the corner! After all, it is God's Church, not ours. He will not let us down, even amidst a lot of change.

So thank you for your support and friendship over these last 3½ years. Warmly welcome, uphold and pray for the new man (or woman) when he (or she) comes. Our benefice is a splendid place to work in and whoever follows me will, I am sure, be very happy here. If you should be in Bournemouth, it will be great to see you. My address will be:

St Peter's Rectory,
18, Wimborne Road,
Bournemouth,
Dorset,
BH2 6NT

(01202 554058)

God bless.

Jim

CANON JIM'S FAREWELL SERVICE WILL BE AT ST MARY'S, GREAT BRINGTON, ON SUNDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, AT 10.00AM.

THIS WILL BE A BENEFICE SERVICE WITH ALL OUR PARTNER PARISHES. United choirs, a bell peal, and refreshments will follow the service.

ALL WELCOME

I am sure everyone will join with us in extending to Canon Jim our very best wishes as he moves on to take up his new post as Team Rector at Bournemouth. To say he will be greatly missed is an understatement! We thank him for all that he has done for our parishes in the comparatively short time that he has been here, especially the way in which he has brought our congregations together within the benefice, and the resulting friendships we have found in each other's churches.

We hope that he will find his new ministry both rewarding and fulfilling.

Apart from anything else, how are we going to replace those excellent articles in our *newsletter*?

Ed's.

"PASS-IT-ON" CAMPAIGN

In the June newsletter an announcement was made regarding St Andrew's Church Whilton becoming involved in the Campaign.

The launch is now confirmed to take place at the 6.00 pm Service on Sunday, 15th September 1996. An invitation will be sent to each household in the Parish.

Immediately after 15th September information about the Campaign will be passed to each household by a Pack Leader who will be responsible for the distribution of the folder to the houses under their control.. The folder will be left at each household for twenty four hours approximately and then collected by the Pack Leader and passed on to the next on the list.

It is essential that the distribution of the folders is completed within two weeks in time for the Thanksgiving at the Village Harvest Festival Service at 6.00 pm on Sunday, 29th September 1996. The Service will be taken by the Archdeacon of Northampton.

Whilton residents are renowned for their positive response when called upon so we know we can rely on serious consideration being given to this Campaign.

Derek Brown
Publications Officer

SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE

The article published in the June 1996 issue has not yet produced any interest - at least not to my knowledge. I do hope there will be a response to this worthwhile cause.

Also anyone willing to act as a recorder on duty in the church for an hour on the day please let me know. The total period for which cover is required - 10.00 am - 6.00 pm

Sponsorship forms are now available from me.

Derek Brown (842968)
Co-ordinator

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AND BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION

Have you seen the super posters in the church porch?

Thank you to Brington School for encouraging Whilton pupils to design posters for the Competition.

Well done Whilton children.

D.B.

~~~~~  
**VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

**Barn Dance**

Friday, 5th July 1996 saw a willing team of sweepers cleaning out the barn at Roughmoor in readiness for the Barn Dance, At that time the weather was rather unsettled but on the Saturday yet again we were blessed with a lovely evening.

The event was a huge success due to the tremendous input by many workers. The barbecue was well-managed by our two usual cooks, the ladies prepared and served the delicious food, the bar was successfully operated and the raffle and whisky game were run by two members of the team. To all these people a heartfelt thank you for all the planning and other work involved. Thanks to the squad who set up the event and cleared away - so many people involved creating a good community spirit in the village,

Approximately 120 tickets were sold and without this support the event would not have been so successful.

Whilst we have refrained from mentioning names, there are two parties involved who require special mention; Tom Treacy for his generous donation of a barrel of beer and Joan and Griff Davies for allowing us to use their barn.

The lady band leader commented "it gets better each year" and this really could not be disputed for the participation and standard of dancing was really something to be witnessed!

The magnificent profit of £400.18 was made on the evening.

Village Hall Committee

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Congratulations to the 200 CLUB prizewinners

May 1st F. Drake
 2nd M.Clements
 3rd P.Webster

June 1st S. Moses
 2nd J.Bunce
 3rd M. Clements

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AND BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION

During the period leading up to the Flower Festival on 22nd & 23rd June 1996, the village looked immaculate apart from one or two areas. By the time the newsletter is issued we shall have the Judging of the East Midlands in Bloom Competition completed (visit to Whilton 17th June 1996) but we still have through to the end of September in respect of the above Competition. The judges make several unannounced visits to the village and therefore there can be no relaxation and I do urge you to continue with the magnificent work that has been done .

Thank you for your efforts to date and also in anticipation of this continuing,

Derek Brown
Whilton Parish Council.

WHILTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION SUMMER VISITS

The beautiful summer evening of 10th June saw 17 members in Litchborough at the home of Benjamin Smith. He had spoken to the Association in 1995 on landscape architecture and to illustrate certain points he had shown us pictures of his own garden in various stages of development. At this meeting, as we were so impressed, this visit was agreed.

He has approximately five acres including a small paddock and large orchard. There were also two ponds, one natural, one man-made, The main effect was of restfulness and natural beauty from every view with no strong colours to detract. Traditional building materials and old wrought iron gates were used in the still developing garden to be in total keeping with the house and ancient trees.

There were plants on sale and the proceeds of which he was donating to the Church.

Monday, 8th July saw 21 members in Ravensthorpe at the home of Dennis Patrick, a favourite speaker at Whilton. The weather was overcast but still pleasantly warm.

This was a true cottage garden with very beautiful old roses and numerous flowers and climbing shrubs; mostly found in gardens of the past. The architecture of the garden was very interesting due to materials used and the relatively small area gave the impression of being larger due to the way it was divided .

Mrs Patrick kindly supplied us with coffee (very welcome as we had asked so many questions). £21.00 was then collected which Mr. Patrick is going to donate to the Cynthia Spencer Hospice.

Just before we left that beautiful garden we had the opportunity of purchasing some of the favourite plants.

Shirley Brown

WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

W.I.REPORT MEETING 12th JUNE

The Parish Council met on Monday 24 June and the meeting was attended by a number of parishioners and the newly elected District Councillor, Mrs. Amos.

Millennium celebrations - Following receipt of a letter from the WI regarding plans to celebrate the millennium, no further plans have been forthcoming.

Churchyard Maintenance - The Parish Council have agreed to buy a mowing machine to be used to mow the churchyard. In the past the small band of volunteers have not only given their time and efforts but used some of their own machinery. Thanks to them for all their efforts and we hope the new mower will make the work a little easier.

Whilton Locks Conservation Area - There is to be a public meeting in Long Buckby on 10 July to discuss proposals for schemes within the conservation area. For further details contact Mike Lewis or Tom Price.

Tree Warden - Derek Coates has volunteered to take on the rôle of tree warden for the parish, for which the Parish Council are most grateful.

Newsletter deliveries - For many years Ros and Jim Gardner and family have delivered the newsletter to households in the village and our thanks go to them for their efforts. They have decided to pass on this responsibility to someone else. We are pleased to say that two new volunteers have now come forward, willing to help deliver.

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 2 September at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

Anne Heeley 843270
Clerk

MILK TOPS, FOIL & STAMPS

We are pleased to say that a steady supply keeps coming in and two more sacks of foil, etc. have been delivered to Lyncrest. Thanks for your help - keep up the good work!

Trudy Haynes

Our speaker for the June meeting was Mrs. Diana Smith from the Daily Bread Co-operative in Bedford Road, Northampton. She began by giving members a brief history of the Co-operative. It began in 1974 at St. Peter's Church in Weston Favell. Christians of every denomination gathered for discussions and prayers.

Then, in 1980, the old laundry building at St Andrew's Hospital became empty and was considered a suitable venue to start a co-operative. The organisation "Mind" was also interested in purchasing the building but decided it was too large for their use.

When the Co-operative began in the new premises it was with very basic items being weighed by hand which, alas, was very time consuming. The help was from people recovering from mental illness and by helping in this way they gained confidence until eventually they were able to go out into a normal work force.

The members run the everyday working of the Co-operative. There is a chairman (who holds the office for three years) a secretary and treasurer; as Mrs. Smith said, just like any other business organisation. The staff have a weekly prayer meeting, which is voluntary, and Communion is also given on a fortnightly basis.

The wages are very basic and everyone earns the same amount, except for people who have children under the age of four. Everyone on the staff has an opportunity to take on any of the different jobs there are to be done. When the Co-operative first began everything was done by hand but now a lot of pre-packed produce is sold.

Last year £9,000 was raised for the Third World countries and their projects. Support was also given to evangelical groups working in India.

New kitchens have been added, because of the new food hygiene regulations, so that cooked items such as bread, flans, cakes and biscuits may be sold.

Mrs. Smith brought with her a variety of the products that are sold at the "Daily Bread", giving members the opportunity to purchase.

Josie Jelley

Whilton Women's Institute

July Meeting

The business side of the meeting was concluded in the village hall after which ten members travelled by car to Peter Ilsley's pottery workshop and studio at Whilton Locks. Once again the evening was the best part of the day and we all marvelled at the peacefulness of the setting beside lock number thirteen.

Mr. Ilsley led us down into his workshop where he proceeded to fashion balls of stoneware (as opposed to earthenware) clay into a jug, a bowl, a mug and finally a candlestick. Questions were invited and flowed plentifully. We learned that the clay first has to be kneaded to remove as much air as possible (not to mention pebbles which can suddenly come to the surface of the clay whilst being worked and possibly ruin the article). The air has to be removed or the pieces could explode in the kiln. The firing temperature can reach an amazing 1300 degrees centigrade after which the pottery will be vitrified without needing a glaze. The important temperature, however, is 575 degrees at which the clay becomes ceramic.

Anthea mentioned that some of her ancestors had been potters and recalled that they had kneaded their clay with their feet (though not in the bath as Mr. Ilsley suggested). Freda remembered a day at art school when, due to being stored in bins outside, the clay was frozen and the whole day was spent just kneading it so that there was no time left for throwing. It seemed that every member had, at some time in the dim and distant past, made a mishapen ashtray at school which had been proudly displayed on the mantelpiece at home. Mr. Ilsley, however, does not make ashtrays.

Some of the tools used were obviously homemade such as a cork with a pin stuck in it for cutting off the raw edges and, surprisingly, even a credit card was much used for shaping. Clay, apparently, is a very plentiful material owing to the large amount of water across the country in Jurassic times (I think my garden must have been in the middle of it!). Garden clay can actually be used in pottery - just dig it up, mix with water, sieve to remove stones and dry it out in the sun.

During the demonstration Mr. Ilsley spoke about pottery in other parts of the world. The Chinese and Japanese are generally held to be the masters of the art and techniques vary enormously from country to country. Next Easter Mr. Ilsley is travelling to Beijing in China where he'll be working at the central academy. He considers himself to be a lucky man, having managed to turn a hobby into a career and has enjoyed earning a living this way for thirty three years - though there have been lean times.

We then moved up to the canalside again to explore his showrooms. Here we were encouraged to touch the pieces in order to appreciate the different finishes. Some of the processes described were incredibly complicated but the results were impressive and varied. After experimenting using crystals in the firing process with varying results Mr. Ilsley decided to concentrate on this form of the art and has since achieved some stunning results with amazing colours. Other finishes involve the pieces being taken straight from the kiln, red hot, and dropped into a box of newspaper or wood shavings which ignites and the box is sealed (Raku). It all sounded pretty dramatic to us.

All in all it was a most enjoyable evening, to see the art demonstrated by one who so obviously enjoyed it and was happy to share it with us. The showrooms are well worth a visit - but take your cheque book because you will probably be tempted by something. The pieces range from reasonably priced kitchen pots to exotic decorative pots - ideal if you're looking for an unusual gift.

We were then welcomed into Freda and Elwyn Thomas' lovely home at Whilton Lodge Stables for refreshments.

Teresa Leadbetter
11.7.96

WHILTON FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL 1996

On behalf of myself as organiser and the members of the P.C.C. of St Andrew's Church a SINCERE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY to make the weekend successful.

The village looked neat and tidy, the churchyard immaculate and the general atmosphere was of the villagers working hard but enjoying themselves.

The flower arrangements in church received much praise and it was nice to have recruited two new members to the team - Ros Gardner & Anna Ellison.

After viewing the gardens, what was more pleasant than to relax with a cup of tea and cake on the terrace of the Little Rectory with its lovely countryside views? - A special thank you to Jane and Paddy O'Riordan for hosting the refreshments and providing such a lovely venue.

The weekend concluded in church with a very happy service of villagers' Songs of Praise.

The financial result was £1050.00

Janet Bowers

FLOWER FESTIVAL - BALANCE SHEET

INCOME

Gate	£357.00
Church Jar	£81.67
Teas	£139.60
Cakes	£145.90
Ice cream	£8.60
Plants	£161.60
Tombola	£126.50
Skittles	£11.70
Raffle	£99.50
30% of card sales	£7.80
Donations	£6.74

Gross Takings £1,146.61

EXPENSES

Advertising	£15.86
Flowers	£80.00
Labels	£0.75

Total Expenses £96.61

Balance to Church Funds £1,050.00

£1,146.61

RESULTS OF FESTIVAL RAFFLE

TICKET NO.	PRIZE	WINNER
38	Chocolates	F.Drake
44	Sparkling cider	B.Fisher
50	White wine	E.Finnemore
104	White wine	J.Waights
108	Red wine	P.Waights
111	Sherry	Phone No. Long Buckby
173	£10 Smith's Voucher	J.Lawrence
178	Bucks Fizz	c/o J.Lawrence
182	Cook book	Martin Emery

CANON JIM WRITES ABOUT OUR VILLAGE

An extract from "This Week" dated 30th June 1996 (our church newsheet that goes out to all six parishes in the Benefice) when Canon Jim wrote:-

"I just want to mention once again how impressed I have been by the appearance of the village these last few weeks. There have been many improvements to the side of the roads, hedges and the village triangle has also been completely re-turfed. This is not just about the "Best Kept Village" competition or our Open Garden Festival but shows a pride that Whilton takes in itself and the strength of our community. Well done everybody."

To this I would add that when on gate duty at the festival there were numerous comments on how neat and tidy our churchyard is. Thanks to Harold, Derek, Bryan and Beryl.

Janet Bowers

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Two incidents have been reported to Daventry Police

26th May Garage of house at the bottom of the village was forcibly entered during the night. Four alloy wheels which were on a Ford Escort car parked in the garage were stolen. Car sidedoor also forced and a box stolen. This box was later found abandoned by the pumping station.

23rd June Adult mountain bike reported stolen from a property in the middle of the village.

Long Buckby Station Car Park

There are reports of thefts from cars left in the car park at Long Buckby Station.

Please note that the Ticket Office at this station is only manned between 6.30am and 1.30 pm on weekdays. It is closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

Owners of cars are advised to check that their vehicles are securely locked and all windows closed before leaving them.

Handbags, shopping bags, briefcases, clothing or personal items should not be left in cars.

Remember that such items left on display in cars anywhere will always attract thieves.

Holiday Crime Prevention

The following advice is important when leaving your house whether for a weekend break or for a longer period:-

- Check that all doors and windows are securely locked before leaving home
- Put all tools, ladders and garden equipment away. Do not leave tricycles or children's toys in the garden. Lock garage and shed doors.
- Cancel deliveries of milk, newspapers etc.
- Do not draw all the curtains. It is a good idea to have an automatic light switch to switch a light on and off during the evening in a downstairs room.
- A burglar alarm is a good investment. Switch it on before leaving home.
- Tell a neighbour that you are away. Leave a contact address if possible.

Always report anything suspicious to Daventry Police immediately. "Remain Vigilant"

DAVENTRY POLICE -
01327 300300

Christine Bilsborough



VILLAGE OUTING 12th JUNE

A rather long, rambling journey, partly through lanes never intended for modern coaches, took us to one of Hertfordshire's prettiest villages - Benington (4 miles east of Stevenage). The village has a long history and all the classic ingredients - church, folly, stately home, pub, black and white cottages and green (complete with duckpond).

Our destination was The Lordship, a large Georgian house attached to the remains of a Norman keep and surrounded by splendid grounds and gardens on a site that most gardeners can only dream about. The slopes around the house provide distant views down to the large pond and across the fields, and add interest to the rockery and long herbaceous border. In 1905, when Arthur Bott obtained the property, there was no garden and the area was occupied by a golf course. He created the garden and the Edwardian flavour has been carefully preserved. Vegetables are still grown in the walled kitchen garden, now partly used as a nursery and garden centre.

From a horticultural point of view the garden is a spectacular example of what can be achieved, in spite of heavy clay soil, by careful design and cultivation. The combination of the elegant house in its historic park and well-maintained gardens with surprises and delights around every corner, make Benington Lordship a place to be remembered.

The afternoon was spent at Luton Hoo, a large house and estate on the edge of Luton. The parkland, designed by the famous 'Capability' Brown struggles against difficulties imposed by modern building. The entrance gates are not imposing - house building has reached right up to them and they stand at the end of an ordinary street, giving the impression of an entrance to a municipal park. The parkland seems neglected and its industrial neighbours, including Luton Airport do not help. The gardens to the south of the house and the informal plantings in the rock garden some distance away, all seem in need of attention and many of the best trees show ugly signs of storm damage. The west front of the house is massive and imposing rather than beautiful, so it is not a surprise to discover that one of the several architects involved also built the Ritz and Waldorf Hotels in London, and another designed the British Museum! Perhaps this provides the clue to the nature of the place, because Luton Hoo is much more like a museum than a family home.

It has been a family home, of course, most recently the Wernher family - the estate being bought in 1905 by Sir Julius Wernher whose fortune was based on South African diamonds. It was this wealth that enabled him to amass the valuable and diverse collections that fill the present public rooms. If the outside of the house is rather gaunt the interior most certainly is not! Well-proportioned rooms are beautifully decorated and contain objects of exquisite workmanship - tapestries, ivories, jewellery, paintings, many cabinets of porcelain, and objects by Fabergé. Human interest is there too - a whole room displays the connection with the Romanov family (the royal family of Russia) and another features the racehorse Brown Jack who won 25 races for Sir Harold Wernher.

In a house like this which contains so many wonderful things it is difficult to pick out highlights, but most visitors will remember the magnificent chapel, designed by the Victorian architect George Street, now rededicated to S. Nicholas (very appropriately in view of the Romanov connections), and used for Russian Orthodox services, and many will regard the elegant, cool, oval staircase hall, with its cabinets of bronzes and fine marble statue of Cupid and Psyche, as something very special.

It is difficult to do justice to the superb contents of Luton Hoo - the collections just have to be seen! Our thanks to Diana for another fascinating outing.

Bryan Williams

VILLAGE OUTING

It was a dull, drizzly morning when we set off for Lea Gardens and Kedleston Hall.

Those of us who visited Lea Gardens some time ago remember the blaze of colour that greeted us. This year, due to the late season, there were only the occasional splashes of colour but they were very impressive. It gave a hint of the beauty to come. We were able to admire the wonderful trees which gave a sheltered background to the garden.

The actual site was once an old quarry and the slope included alpine scree plots with unusual plants. It could be described as four acres of interest and beauty.

One cannot leave Lea Gardens without mention of the tea room, with its home-made goodies, and the plant sales area - both appreciated by all.

Our route to Kedleston Hall took us through the lovely Derwent Valley. The weather had improved so we were able to enjoy the wonderful scenery.

On arrival at the Hall we made straight for the restaurant, the first there taking seats furthest from the door. To our surprise the "last-in" were tucking into their meal before orders had been taken from the "first-in". "The last shall be first and the first shall be last"!

The Hall itself proved to be an amazing place! In the entrance hall were huge columns of local alabaster which had all been fluted "in situ". What a wonderful feat of craftsmanship!

There were the usual paintings, furniture and china to be seen and I was given an interesting piece of information by one of the stewards. Practically all the wood in the house was from local sources, mostly from the estate. The exception was that of the mahogany doors. These were made from the first shipment of this wood from the east to this country. One corridor floor was of oak boards that followed the curve of the walls - quite an achievement!

There were lots of lovely tables, including the longest coffin table in the country. Perhaps they were a tall family!

On display were the items collected by George Nathaniel Curzon when he was Viceroy of India. These included the robes and dress worn by the Viceroy and his wife for the Delhi Coronation Durbar - quite magnificent!

The church - all that remains of the medieval village - houses monuments of the Curzon family, including two carved heads of a knight and lady beneath wooden covers. These are thought to be the earliest of the monuments.

We all had a most enjoyable day and, once again, we say thank you, Diana, for all your hard work.

Trudy Haynes

GRAMMAR

There has been much said and written recently about the lack of teaching of grammar in our schools nowadays. A letter appeared in my daily paper quoting a poem that the writer had been taught as a child and commending it as a good basis for the learning of grammar. I felt it was worth repeating so here it is :

A NOUN is the name of anything as *school* or *garden*, *hoop* or *swing*.

A PRONOUN stands instead of a noun as *she* instead of Brenda Brown.

A VERB tells us of anything done as *jump* or *skip* or *fly* or *run*.

AN ADVERB tells *how*, *why*, *when* or *where* as: he travelled *behind* and she sat *there*.

AN ADJECTIVE the noun describes as *pretty* flowers or *clever* scribes.

A PREPOSITION stands before the noun, as *in* or *through* the door.

CONJUNCTIONS join the words together as: men *and* women, wind *or* weather.

INTERJECTION shows surprise as: *Oh!* how pretty. *Ah!* how wise.

H.H.

Summary of Events

Sun	4th	Aug	10.00	United Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>WHILTON</u>
Mon	5th	Aug	7.30	Whilton Gardeners' Association "Fuchsias" - Mr. E. Sayers
Sun	1st	Sep	10.00	United Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>HARLESTONE</u>
Mon	2nd	Sep	8.00	Parish Council Meeting
Early September				W.I. Wine & Cheese Evening - Orchard House
Sun	8th	Sep	10.00	United Benefice Sung Eucharist at <u>BRINGTON</u> (CANON JIM'S FAREWELL SERVICE)
Wed	11th	Sep	7.30	W.I. Meeting - "Just an Ordinary House" - Mr. P. Lee
Thur	12th	Sep		Village Outing - Lichfield Cathedral & Wightwick Manor
Wed	18th	Sep		Newsletter Deadline
Mon	23rd	Sep	7.00	Parochial Church Council Meeting

The Whilton newsletter is published bi-monthly and circulated free to every household within the Parish boundary. The costs are met by the Parish Council. The Editors are:

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Mrs. Trudy Haynes - The Old Plough, Main Street
Mrs. Shirley Brown - Cherry Orton, Main Street
Mrs. Anne Heeley - Springbank, Brington Lane

Contributions to the newsletter to any of the above by the deadline date, please